

# An Overture to Quantum Superstring in $AdS_5 \times S^5$

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# 1 Introduction

The concept of AdS/CFT (or gauge/string) correspondence has had enormous impact on both string theory and field theory.

It has been applied to a variety of problems in diverse areas.

Holographic QCD, AdS/CMT, etc.

( $\sim$  strong coupling problems in field theory)

**But**

**the fundamental understanding of this correspondence still remains as an important unsolved problem.**

(My main interest in the past 10 years)

Major reason for the difficulty:  
strong/weak nature of the correspondence

For  $N = 4$  SYM / SG in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  correspondence

$$(\star) \quad g_{YM}^2 N = 4\pi g_s N = \frac{R^4}{\alpha'^2}$$

Small (large) 't Hooft coupling  $\iff$  large (small)  $\alpha' \sim l_s^2$

Two equalities in the relation

- ▶ First equality : Perturbative open-closed duality
- ▶ Second equality ( closed string side only)  
 $\sim$  Balance between gravity and RR flux (“anti-gravity”)

Lagrangian density

$$\mathcal{L}_{gravity} \sim \frac{1}{g_s^2} \frac{1}{l_s^8} \mathcal{R} \sim \frac{1}{g_s^2} \frac{1}{l_s^8} \frac{1}{R^2} = \mathcal{L}_{RR} \sim F_5^2 \sim \left( \frac{N}{R^5} \right)^2$$

Clearly, it is not just an open-closed duality

- ▶ *AdS* side: Do need stringy corrections ( $\Leftarrow$  BMN)
- ▶ *CFT* side: No need of contributions from massive modes of the open string

Why is the (supergravity level) relation ( $\star$ ) not corrected ?

For deeper understanding, we wish to solve  
the quantum closed string in AdS spacetime  
either exactly or in  $1/\alpha'$  ( $\sim \sqrt{\lambda}$ ) expansion

## Past studies:

### □ Quantum string in $AdS_3$ with **NSNS flux** :

#### ▶ RNS formalism with worldsheet **conformal invariance**

(Giveon-Kutasov-Seiberg (98), Maldacena-Ooguri (00,01), etc.)

Bosonic part:  $SL(2, R)$  WZW model

- Isometry:  $SO(2, 2) = SL(2, R)_L \times SL(2, R)_R$   
→ **current algebra symmetry**  $\widehat{SL}(2, R)_L \times \widehat{SL}(2, R)_R$
- Spectrum and correlation functions are dictated by these powerful symmetries

♠ Much more difficult with RR flux of our interest:

RR field = bispinor: Difficult to handle in RNS formalism

## Formalisms to handle RR fields

- ◆ Green-Schwarz formalism: LC (or Semi-LC) gauge (Green-Schwarz (84))
- ◆ Hybrid formalism =  $GS \oplus RNS$  (Berkovits (94))
- ◆ Pure spinor formalism (Berkovits (00))

□ Quantum string in  $AdS_3$  (and  $AdS_2$ ) with RR flux :

- ▶ Conformal sigma model with a certain supergroup as a target space  
(Berkovits-Vafa-Witten (99), Berkovits-Bershadsky-Hauer-Zhukov-Zwiebach (99), etc)
- Hybrid formalism: With RR flux, difficult to assure unitarity

□ Quantum string in pp-wave background with RR flux:

▶ Exact (free massive) spectrum using GS formalism in LC gauge (Metsaev (01))

▶ Correspondence with non-BPS operators in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM

(Berenstein-Maldacena-Nastase (02), many many works)

▶ Interaction: 3-point vertex in light-cone SFT

(Spradlin, Volovich, . . . , Moriyama, . . . Dobashi, Shimada, Yoneya, . . . )

Only partially understood in perturbation theory: not enough symmetry

● **Worldsheet** formulation with conformal invariance (in Semi-LC gauge) (YK and Yokoi (08), Comprehensive SLC gauge formulation (flat space) (YK and Yokoi, in preparation))

□ Quantum string in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  with RR flux:

### Notoriously difficult problem

- ▶ Classical action: GS: (Metsaev-Tseytlin (98)) PS: (Berkovits (00))
- ▶ Classical GS LC gauge action and symmetry generators (Metsaev, Tseytlin, Thorn, (00, 01) )
- ▶  $\alpha'(\sim 1/\sqrt{\lambda})$ - expansions around classical solutions can be made.
- ▶ Attempts at formulation as an integrable model using Pohlmeyer reduction (Grigoriev, Tseytlin, Mikhailov, Shafer-Nameki, Roiban, Jevicki, ... )  
Classical solutions  $\oplus$  semiclassical quantization
- ▶ So far, no formulation has been found where  $psu(2, 2|4)$  is lifted to current algebra symmetry.

♠ Even a superparticle has not been fully quantized and solved in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$



# Our Strategy

Maximal supersymmetry should be rather powerful

Make full use of the representation theory of  
 $psu(2, 2|4)$  symmetry in the quantization

First stage: **Spectrum**: Which representations occur ?

1. Develop **systematic phase space formulation** from the first principle in a **physical gauge** and **quantize** the system.
2. Construct the **quantum superconformal ( $psu(2, 2|4)$ ) generators** in terms of string coordinates
3. Find all the **superconformal primary states** of the system by solving the equations  $S_I|\Psi\rangle = 0 \implies$  Complete spectrum

**Each of these steps is non-trivial**

Recently, we have been able to execute this program  
for the zero mode part of the superstring ( *i.e.* a superparticle)

T.Horigane and Y. Kazama arXiv:0912.1166 (Phys.Rev. D81, 045004, 2010 )

## Result

- ◆ All the superconformal primary states and their explicit wave functions are obtained
- ◆ They precisely match the supergravity spectrum, including all the KK excitations

Hopefully, this will serve as  
an overture to quantum superstring in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$

# Plan

1. Introduction
2. Phase space formulation of a superparticle in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  with RR flux
3. Quantum superconformal generators
4. Complete solution of physical states  
— Spectrum and wave functions —
5. On-going and future projects

## 2 Phase space formulation of a superparticle in $AdS_5 \times S^5$ with RR flux

### 2.1 Global symmetry algebra:

$psu(2, 2|4) \simeq$  superconformal algebra in 4D

The most efficient way to construct the Brink-Green-Schwarz action for a superparticle (and a superstring) in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  with RR flux is the **supercoset construction** based on the symmetry algebra  $psu(2, 2|4)$ <sup>1</sup>.

$$AdS_5 \times S^5 \simeq \frac{SO(4, 2)}{SO(4, 1)} \times \frac{SO(6)}{SO(5)}$$

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<sup>1</sup>Here we follow Metsaev and Tseytlin (hep-th/9805028, hep-th/0007036)

□  $psu(2, 2|4)$  algebra:

Even part:

$SO(4, 2)$

$$[T^{AB}, T^{CD}] = \eta^{BC}T^{AD} - \eta^{AC}T^{BD} - \eta^{BD}T^{AC} + \eta^{AD}T^{BC}$$

$$A = (-1, a, 4), \quad a = 0, 1, 2, 3, \quad \eta_{AB} = (-, -, +, +, +, +)$$

$SO(4, 1)$  basis:  $(\hat{a} = 0 \sim 4 = (a, 4))$

$$T^{AB} = \begin{cases} T^{\hat{a}\hat{b}} = SO(4, 1) \text{ generators} \\ T^{\hat{a}} (\equiv T^{\hat{a}, -1}) = \text{coset generators} \end{cases}$$

“4D-Conformal” basis:  $(a = 0 \sim 3)$

$$P^a \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(T^a - T^{a4}), \quad K^a \equiv -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(T^a + T^{a4})$$

$$D \equiv T^4 (= T^{4, -1}), \quad J^{ab} \equiv T^{ab}$$

## Commutation relations

$$\begin{aligned}
 [J, P] &\sim P, & [J, K] &\sim K, & [J, J] &\sim J \\
 [D, P] &= P, & [D, K] &= -K, & [P, K] &\sim D \oplus J
 \end{aligned}$$

► We will often use the following 4D “Light-cone basis”

$$\begin{aligned}
 P^\pm &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(P^3 \pm P^0) \\
 P^x &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(P^1 + iP^2), & P^{\bar{x}} &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(P^1 - iP^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly for  $K^\pm, K^x, K^{\bar{x}}, J^{+-}, J^{\pm x}, J^{\pm \bar{x}}, J^{x\bar{x}}$

$SO(6) \simeq SU(4)$

$$[J^i_j, J^k_l] = \delta_j^k J^i_l - \delta_l^i J^k_j, \quad (J^i_i = 0) \quad i, j, k, l = 1 \sim 4$$

Odd part:

► 32 supercharges:  $Q^{\pm i}, Q_i^{\pm}, S^{\pm i}, S_i^{\pm}, \quad i = 1 \sim 4$

Charges:

	$Q^{\pm i}$	$Q_i^{\pm}$	$S^{\pm i}$	$S_i^{\pm}$
$D$ -charge	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$
$J^{\pm}$ -charge	$\pm\frac{1}{2}$	$\pm\frac{1}{2}$	$\pm\frac{1}{2}$	$\pm\frac{1}{2}$
$J^{x\bar{x}}$ -charge	$\pm\frac{1}{2}$	$\mp\frac{1}{2}$	$\mp\frac{1}{2}$	$\pm\frac{1}{2}$

$SU(4)$  transformation properties

$Q^{\pm i}, S^{\pm i}$  belong to  $4$ ,  $Q_i^{\pm}, S_i^{\pm}$  belong to  $\bar{4}$

Non-vanishing [ $B_{oson}, F_{ermion}$ ] type commutators

$$[P, S] \sim Q, \quad [K, Q] \sim S$$

$$[J, Q] \sim Q, \quad [J, S] \sim S$$

- Anti-commutation relations among the supercharges:

$$\{Q, Q\} \sim P, \quad \{S, S\} \sim K$$

$$\{Q, S\} \sim J_{so(3,1)} \oplus D \oplus J_{su(4)}$$

Hermiticity:

- Convention:  $P^a, K^a, D, J^{ab}$  are **anti-hermitian**,  $(J^i_j)^\dagger = J^j_i$
- $(Q^{\pm i})^\dagger = Q_i^\pm, (S^{\pm i})^\dagger = S_i^\pm$



## 2.2 Supercoset construction

Supercoset

$$\mathcal{K} = \frac{PSU(2, 2|4)}{SO(4, 1) \times SO(5)}$$

Our choice of the representative  $G \in \mathcal{K}$

$$G = g_x g_\theta g_\eta g_y g_\phi$$

$$g_x = \exp(\mathbf{x}_a P^a)$$

$$g_\theta = \exp(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{-i} Q_i^+ + \boldsymbol{\theta}_i^- Q^{+i} + \boldsymbol{\theta}^{+i} Q_i^- + \boldsymbol{\theta}_i^+ Q^{-i})$$

$$g_\eta = \exp(\boldsymbol{\eta}^{-i} S_i^+ + \boldsymbol{\eta}_i^- S^{+i} + \boldsymbol{\eta}^{+i} S_i^- + \boldsymbol{\eta}_i^+ S^{-i})$$

$$g_y = \exp(\mathbf{y}^i_j J^j_i), \quad \mathbf{y}^i_j = \frac{i}{2} \underbrace{(\gamma^{A'})^i_j}_{SO(5) \ \gamma} \mathbf{y}^{A'}, \quad A' = 5 \sim 9$$

$$g_\phi = \exp(\phi D)$$

10 bosonic coordinates  $(x_a, \phi, y^{A'})$  and 32 fermionic coordinates  $\theta^{\pm i}, \theta_i^\pm, \eta^{\pm i}, \eta_i^\pm$

## Basic building blocks: Left-invariant Cartan 1-forms

$$J = G^{-1}dG = L_P^a P_a + L_K^a K_a + \dots + L_S^{+i} S_i^- + \frac{1}{2} L^{ab} J_{ab} + L^j_i J^i_j$$

All the generators appear (unlike the flat case).  $G^{-1}dG$  as a whole describes a motion in the entire group space.

Extract **the motion along the coset part**  $\propto T^{\hat{a}}, J^{A'}$  ( $\equiv -\frac{i}{2} J^i_j (\gamma^{A'})^j_i$ ):

So we need to project it out like

$$\begin{aligned} J &= L_P^a P_a + L_K^a K_a + \dots \\ &= L_P^a \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (T^a - T^{a4}) - L_K^a \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (T^a + T^{a4}) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore J_B^{coset} = L_B dt &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (L_P^a - L_K^a) T^a + \dots \\ &= J_B^{\hat{a}} T_{\hat{a}} + J_B^{A'} J_{A'} \end{aligned}$$

$$J_B^{\hat{a}} = (J_B^a, J_B^4) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (L_P^a - L_K^a), L_D \right), \quad J_B^{A'} = \frac{i}{2} (\gamma^{A'})^i_j L^j_i$$

Action

$$S = \frac{1}{2e} \int \left( \eta_{\hat{a}\hat{b}} J_B^{\hat{a}} J_B^{\hat{b}} + \delta_{A'B'} J_B^{A'} J_B^{B'} \right)$$

- For a superparticle the Wess-Zumino term vanishes. The local  $\kappa$ -symmetry already exists for  $S$  above.

□ Choice of a physical gauge :

Without imposing any gauge conditions, the Cartan 1-form  $G^{-1}dG$  can contain up to 32 powers of fermionic coordinates. Impossible to compute it in closed form.

We fix the  $\kappa$ -symmetry by imposing the 16 conditions

$$\theta^{+i} = \theta_i^+ = \eta^{+i} = \eta_i^+ = 0 \quad \text{“light-cone gauge”}$$

$\Leftrightarrow$  Only the supercharges with  $\mathbf{J}^{+-}$ -charge  $+\frac{1}{2}$  are kept

$$g_\theta = \exp(\theta^i Q_i^+ + \theta_i Q^{+i})$$

$$g_\eta = \exp(\eta^i S_i^+ + \eta_i S^{+i}), \quad \theta^i \equiv \theta^{-i}, \eta^i \equiv \eta^{-i}, \text{ etc.}$$

Multiple commutators terminate  $\Rightarrow$  Cartan 1-form and the action simplify substantially.

$$S = \frac{1}{2e} \int dt \left( \underbrace{e^{-2\phi} (\dot{x}^+ \dot{x}^- + \dot{x} \dot{\bar{x}})}_{AdS \text{ metric in Poincaré coord. } (z = e^\phi)} + e_0^{A'} e_0^{A'} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{i}{2} \dot{x}^+ \left[ e^{-2\phi} (\theta^i \dot{\theta}_i + \theta_i \dot{\theta}^i) + (\eta^i \dot{\eta}_i + \eta_i \dot{\eta}^i) - 2i \tilde{\eta}_i (\gamma^{A'})^i_j e_0^{A'} \tilde{\eta}^j \right] \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{4} (\dot{x}^+)^2 \left[ (\eta^2)^2 - (\tilde{\eta}_i (\gamma^{A'})^i_j \tilde{\eta}^j)^2 \right] \right)$$

where

$$U = \exp((i/2) y^{A'} \gamma^{A'}), \quad e_0^{A'} = -\frac{i}{2} \text{Tr}(\gamma^{A'} \dot{U} U^{-1}), \quad \tilde{\eta}^i \equiv U^i_j \eta^j, \quad \tilde{\eta}_i \equiv \eta_j (U^{-1})^j_i$$

Still, the action is quite non-linear. Canonical quantization looks extremely difficult.

## 2.3 Phase space formulation and quantization

For non-linear systems, the phase space formulation is very useful **when the generator of the “dynamics” is contained in the the symmetry algebra**<sup>2</sup>

- ◆ Quantization can be performed at equal time **without solving the dynamical equation of motion.**
- ◆ **Dynamics can then be generated by a member of the algebra.**

$psu(2, 2|4)$  algebra contains

$$\text{AdS energy operator } \mathbf{E} = -i(\mathbf{P}^0 - \mathbf{K}^0)/\sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{“light-cone” Hamiltonian} = -\mathbf{P}^-.$$

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<sup>2</sup>Emphasized and utilized in [Kazama and Yokoi] arXiv:0801.1561

□ Apparent difficulties for the Dirac procedure

We have the explicit action **only on the gauge slice**

$$\Theta_I^+ = (\theta^+, \eta^+) = 0$$

Cannot compute the momenta  $P_{\Theta_I^+}$

Noether charges are obtained by varying  
the symmetry parameters (made local)



♠ Information slightly away from the gauge slice  
seems to be needed.

This has been preventing systematic procedure in the past

□ Solution of the problem :

◆ We have found a way to bypass this problem

- Compute the **Lagrange bracket** in the physical sector and then **invert it to get the Dirac bracket**. This requires **only the information on the gauge slice**. (For details, see our paper.)
- We have developed a formula for the Noether charge which can be evaluated **directly on the gauge slice**.

In this way, the quantum Noether charges are constructed in terms of the “**free fields**” satisfying the canonical CR

$$\begin{aligned} [x, P_x] &= [\bar{x}, P_{\bar{x}}] = [x^-, P_-] = [\phi, P_\phi] = i, & [y^{A'}, P_{B'}] &= i\delta_{B'}^{A'} \\ \{S^i, S_j\} &= \{\tilde{S}^i, \tilde{S}_j\} = \delta_j^i & (S^i \leftarrow i\sqrt{P_-}\theta^i, \tilde{S}^i \leftarrow i\sqrt{P_-}e^\phi\eta^i) \end{aligned}$$

### 3 Quantum superconformal generators

#### 3.1 Quantum superconformal generators

Below we use the notation  $N_S = S^i S_i$ ,  $N_{\tilde{S}} = \tilde{S}^i \tilde{S}_i$ ,  $S \cdot \tilde{S} = S^i \tilde{S}_i$ ,  $z = e^\phi$

$$\mathbb{P}^x = iP_{\bar{x}}$$

$$\mathbb{P}^{\bar{x}} = iP_x$$

$$\mathbb{P}^+ = iP_-$$

$$\mathbb{P}^- = -H_{lc} = \frac{i}{4P_-} \left[ -4P_x P_{\bar{x}} + \partial_z^2 - \frac{1}{z} \partial_z \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{z^2} (-3 - \hat{l}^2 + 4N_{\tilde{S}} - N_{\tilde{S}}^2 + 4l^m{}_k \tilde{S}^k \tilde{S}_m) \right]$$

$$\mathbb{K}^x = -iz^2 P_{\bar{x}} + x \left( z\partial_z + ix^- P_- + ix P_x + \frac{1}{2} (N_S - N_{\tilde{S}} + 3) \right) \\ + iz S \cdot \tilde{S} - \tau \mathbb{J}^{-x}$$

$$\mathbb{K}^{\bar{x}} = -iz^2 P_x + \bar{x} \left( z\partial_z + ix^- P_- + i\bar{x} P_{\bar{x}} + \frac{1}{2} (-N_S + N_{\tilde{S}} + 3) \right) \\ + iz \tilde{S} \cdot S - \tau \mathbb{J}^{-\bar{x}}$$



$$\mathbb{K}^+ = \frac{1}{i}(z^2 + x\bar{x})P_- + \tau(z\partial_z + ixP_x + i\bar{x}P_{\bar{x}} + 1 + \tau\mathbb{P}^-)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{K}^- &= (x\bar{x} - z^2)\mathbb{P}^- + \bar{x}\mathbb{J}^{-x} + x\mathbb{J}^{-\bar{x}} + x^-z\partial_z + i(x^-)^2P_- + 2x^- \\ &+ \frac{i}{4P_-} \left[ -2z\partial_z - 1 + 2N_{\tilde{S}} - N_{\tilde{S}}^2 - 2N_S + N_S^2 + 4(\tilde{S} \cdot S)(S \cdot \tilde{S}) \right. \\ &\left. + 4l^k_m(\tilde{S}^m\tilde{S}_k - S^mS_k) - 4z(P_{\bar{x}}\tilde{S} \cdot S + P_xS \cdot \tilde{S}) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{D} = -z\partial_z - (ix^-P_- + ixP_x + i\bar{x}P_{\bar{x}}) - \frac{3}{2} - \tau\mathbb{P}^-$$

$$\mathbb{J}^{+-} = -ix^-P_- - \frac{1}{2} + \tau\mathbb{P}^-$$

$$\mathbb{J}^{x\bar{x}} = -i\bar{x}P_{\bar{x}} + ixP_x + \frac{1}{2}(N_S - N_{\tilde{S}})$$

$$\mathbb{J}^{+x} = -ixP_- + i\tau P_{\bar{x}}$$

$$\mathbb{J}^{+\bar{x}} = -i\bar{x}P_- + i\tau P_x$$

$$\mathbb{J}^{-x} = -x\mathbb{P}^- + ix^-P_{\bar{x}} - \frac{P_{\bar{x}}}{2P_-}(N_S + N_{\tilde{S}} - 1) + \frac{i}{\sqrt{P_-}}S^kQ_k^-$$

$$\mathbb{J}^{-\bar{x}} = -\bar{x}\mathbb{P}^- + ix^-P_x + \frac{P_x}{2P_-}(N_S + N_{\tilde{S}} + 1) + \frac{i}{\sqrt{P_-}}Q^{-k}S_k$$

$$\mathbb{J}^i_j = l^i_j + M^i_j$$

$$l^i_j = \frac{1}{2}(U^{-1}\gamma^{A'}U)^i_j J_B^{A'}, \quad M^i_j \equiv S^i S_j - \frac{1}{4}\delta_j^i N_S + \tilde{S}^i \tilde{S}_j - \frac{1}{4}\delta_j^i N_{\tilde{S}}$$

$$Q^{+i} = i\sqrt{P_-}S^i$$

$$Q_i^+ = -i\sqrt{P_-}\tilde{S}_i$$

$$Q^{-i} = \frac{i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ 2P_x S^i - \partial_z \tilde{S}^i + \frac{1}{z} \left( \tilde{S}^i (N_{\tilde{S}} - 1) - 2l^i_k \tilde{S}^k \right) \right]$$

$$Q_i^- = \frac{-i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ 2P_{\bar{x}} S_i + \partial_z \tilde{S}_i + \frac{1}{z} \left( \tilde{S}_i (N_{\tilde{S}} - 3) - 2\tilde{S}_k l^k_i \right) \right]$$

$$S^{+i} = -i\sqrt{P_-} \left( z\tilde{S}^i + i\bar{x}S^i \right) + i\tau Q^{-i}$$

$$S_i^+ = i\sqrt{P_-} \left( z\tilde{S}_i - ixS_i \right) - i\tau Q_i^-$$

$$S^{-i} = \frac{-i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ 2zP_{\bar{x}}\tilde{S}^i - 2\tilde{S}^i(S \cdot \tilde{S}) - S^i(z\partial_z + N_S + 1) + 2l^i_k S^k \right] \\ + ix^- Q^{+i} + i\bar{x}Q^{-i}$$

$$S_i^- = \frac{i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ 2zP_x \tilde{S}^i - 2\tilde{S}^i(\tilde{S} \cdot S) + S_i(z\partial_z - N_S + 5) + 2l^k_i S_k \right] \\ - ix^- Q_i^+ - i\bar{x}Q_i^-$$

- ◆ These generators<sup>3</sup> are properly normal ordered such that
  - They satisfy the proper hermiticity properties
  - They satisfy the  $psu(2, 2|4)$  algebra
- ◆  $\tau$ -dependence is generated precisely by the **unitary transformation**

$$\mathcal{O}(\tau) = e^{\tau \mathbb{P}^-} \mathcal{O} e^{-\tau \mathbb{P}^-}$$

⇒ We can study the system at  $\tau = 0$  first and then generate  $\tau$ -dependence later by the above unitary transformation.

**We wish to obtain all the physical states forming unitary irreducible representations of  $psu(2, 2|4)$  generated by this concrete system.**

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<sup>3</sup>Classically, these generators were obtained, somewhat indirectly, by Metsaev, Tseytlin and Thorn in hep-th/0009171.

## 4 Complete solution for superconformal primaries

### 4.1 Dilatation(D) scheme and energy(E) scheme for the $SO(4, 2)$ sector

There are two schemes for the choice of the maximal subgroups of  $SO(4, 2)$

$$\mathbf{E}\text{-scheme} \quad SO(4, 2) \supset SO(2)_{\mathbf{E}} \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$$

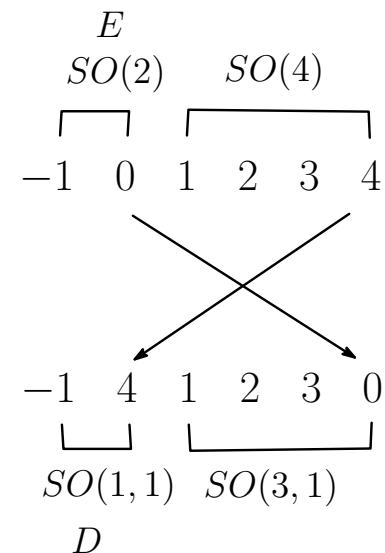
$$\mathbf{D}\text{-scheme} \quad SO(4, 2) \supset SO(1, 1)_{\mathbf{D}} \times SL(2, C) \times \overline{SL(2, C)}$$

Transformation from the  $\mathbf{D}$ -scheme to the  $\mathbf{E}$ -scheme is effected by the **non-unitary** similarity transformation

$$V \mathcal{O} V^{-1} = \hat{\mathcal{O}}$$

$$V = e^{i(\pi/2)R}$$

$$R = T^{40} = \text{anti-hermitian}$$



- ◆ This is designed to map the dilatation operator  $\mathbb{D} = T^{4,-1}$  to the AdS energy operator  $\mathbb{E} = -iT^{0,-1}$ :

$$VDV^{-1} \equiv \hat{\mathbb{D}} = \mathbb{E} = \frac{1}{2i}(P^+ - P^- - K^+ + K^-)$$

- ◆ As it is a similarity transformation, this mapping preserves the structure of the superconformal algebra.

However, it is a **non-unitary** transformation and hence **it does not preserve the norm**.

To compare with the supergravity result, we should look for **unitary (hence normalizable) representations with real AdS energy  $E$** .

So, we label the “highest weight” state by

$$|E, j_L, j_R\rangle \Leftrightarrow SO(2) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \subset SO(4, 2)$$

## Remark:

$$\diamond \mathbb{E}|E, j_L, j_R\rangle = E|E, j_L, j_R\rangle \Rightarrow \mathbb{D}(V^{-1}|E, j_L, j_R\rangle) = E(V^{-1}|E, j_L, j_R\rangle)$$

$\therefore V^{-1}|E, j_L, j_R\rangle$  is an **anti-hermitian generator**  $\mathbb{D}$  with **real** eigenvalue.

This is consistent since

- One can show that  $V^{-1}|E, j_L, j_R\rangle$  is of zero-norm.
- In the AdS/CFT context, the gauge-invariant composite operators in SYM carry real eigenvalues with respect to anti-hermitian dilatation operator.

## 4.2 Conformal and superconformal primary conditions

So we must formulate the conformal and superconformal primary state conditions in the  $E$ -scheme.

In  $D$ -scheme:      Conf. primary:  $\mathbb{K}|\Psi\rangle = 0$       Superconf. primary:  $\mathbb{S}|\Psi\rangle = 0$

(Of course  $\mathbb{S}|\Psi\rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbb{K}|\Psi\rangle = 0$ )

In  $E$ -scheme: Conf. primary:  $\hat{\mathbb{K}}|\Psi\rangle = 0$  Superconf. primary:  $\hat{\mathbb{S}}|\Psi\rangle = 0$

$$\hat{\mathbb{K}}^x = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{K}^x - \mathbb{P}^x - i(\mathbb{J}^{+x} - \mathbb{J}^{-x}))$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{K}}^{\bar{x}} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{K}^{\bar{x}} - \mathbb{P}^{\bar{x}} - i(\mathbb{J}^{+\bar{x}} - \mathbb{J}^{-\bar{x}}))$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{K}}^+ = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{K}^+ - \mathbb{P}^- - i(\mathbb{J}^{+-} - \mathbb{D}))$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{K}}^- = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{K}^- - \mathbb{P}^+ - i(\mathbb{J}^{+-} + \mathbb{D}))$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{S}}^{+i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(S^{+i} + Q^{-i}), \quad \hat{\mathbb{S}}^{-i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(S^{-i} - Q^{+i})$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{S}}_i^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(S_i^+ - Q_i^-), \quad \hat{\mathbb{S}}_i^- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(S_i^- + Q_i^+)$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{Q}}^{+i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(Q^{+i} + S^{-i}), \quad \hat{\mathbb{Q}}^{-i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(Q^{-i} - S^{+i})$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_i^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(Q_i^+ - S_i^-), \quad \hat{\mathbb{Q}}_i^- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(Q_i^- + S_i^+)$$

### 4.3 Allowed highest weight unitary representations for the $SU(4)$ sector

We first examine what kind of highest weight unitary irrep are allowed for the  $SU(4)$  sector.  $SU(4)$  generators consist of the **orbital** and the **spin** part:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{J}^i_j &= l^i_j + M^i_j \\ l^i_j &= \frac{1}{2}(U^{-1}\gamma^{A'}U)^i_j J^{A'}_B \\ M^i_j &\equiv S^i S_j - \frac{1}{4}\delta^i_j N_S + \tilde{S}^i \tilde{S}_j - \frac{1}{4}\delta^i_j N_{\tilde{S}}\end{aligned}$$

♡ **Observation:** (partial) Casimir operator  $\hat{l}^2 \equiv l^m_n l^n_m$  commutes with all the  $psu(2, 2|4)$  generators.

⇒ Orbital part can be analyzed independently.



□ Orbital part:

There exists a quadratic product relation<sup>4</sup> satisfied by  $l^i_j$

$$(\star) \quad \mathcal{L}^i_j \equiv l^i_k l^k_j - \frac{1}{4} \hat{l}^2 \delta^i_j - 2l^i_j = 0$$

Product relation among the generators

↓

Restriction on the highest weight module

---

Example:  $SU(2)$  in terms of fermionic oscillators  $b_i, i = 1, 2$ , with  $\{b_i^\dagger, b_j\} = \delta_{ij}$

$$\begin{aligned} J^3 &= \frac{1}{2}(b_1^\dagger b_1 - b_2^\dagger b_2) \\ J^+ &= b_1^\dagger b_2, \quad J^- = b_2^\dagger b_1 \\ \Rightarrow [J^3, J^\pm] &= \pm J^\pm, \quad [J^+, J^-] = 2J^3 \end{aligned}$$

---

<sup>4</sup>This relation was found by Metsaev, hep-th/9908114

Product relation  $J^- J^- = 0 \Rightarrow$  HW representation is utmost 2-dimensional.

In fact we can only have 3 possible HW states:

$$|0\rangle(1 \text{ dim}), \quad b_1^\dagger|0\rangle(2 \text{ dim}), \quad b_1^\dagger b_2^\dagger|0\rangle(1 \text{ dim})$$


---

Analyze (★) in our case using the Chevalley basis generators:

$$l_j^i = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4}(3H_1 + 2H_2 + H_3) & E_1^+ & [E_1^+, E_2^+] & [E_1^+, [E_2^+, E_3^+]] \\ E_1^- & \frac{1}{4}(-H_1 + 2H_2 + H_3) & E_2^+ & [E_2^+, E_3^+] \\ -[E_1^-, E_2^-] & E_2^- & -\frac{1}{4}(H_1 + 2H_2 - H_3) & E_3^+ \\ [E_1^-, [E_2^-, E_3^-]] & -[E_2^-, E_3^-] & E_3^- & -\frac{1}{4}(H_1 + 2H_2 + 3H_3) \end{pmatrix}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} [H_{\hat{i}}, H_{\hat{j}}] &= 0, & [E_{\hat{i}}^+, E_{\hat{j}}^-] &= \delta_{\hat{i}\hat{j}} H_{\hat{j}} \\ [H_{\hat{i}}, E_{\hat{j}}^\pm] &= \pm K_{\hat{j}\hat{i}} E_{\hat{j}}^\pm, & \hat{i}, \hat{j} &= 1, 2, 3 \end{aligned}$$

$K_{\hat{j}\hat{i}} =$  Cartan matrix

An example of the power of the quadratic relation (★):

$$\mathcal{L}_1^2 |\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\rangle = 0$$

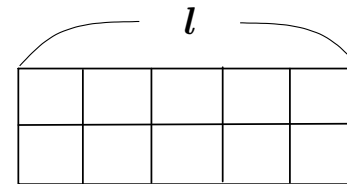
$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{(\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + 2)}_{\neq 0} E_1^- |\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\rangle = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 0$$

Result: The only allowed HWS are

$$|0, l, 0\rangle, \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\hat{l}^2 |0, l, 0\rangle = l(l+4) |0, l, 0\rangle$$



□ Inclusion of the spin part:

Spin part of the Hilbert space is generated by  $S^i$  and  $\tilde{S}^i$  upon the vacuum  $|0\rangle$ .

$\Rightarrow 2^8$  states: decomposed into many different HWR's

$\Leftrightarrow$  Full generators  $\mathbb{J}^i_j$  do not satisfy a simple product relation like (★).

But, if we combine with some of the superconformal primary conditions, we can

derive

$$\mathcal{J}_j^i \equiv \mathbb{J}^i_k \mathbb{J}^k_j - \frac{1}{4} \hat{\mathbb{J}}^2 \delta_j^i - \left(4 - \frac{N}{2}\right) \mathbb{J}^i_j \approx 0$$

$$N \equiv N_S + N_{\tilde{S}} \quad (N = 0, 1, \dots, 8)$$

$$\text{where} \quad \hat{\mathbb{J}}^2 \equiv \mathbb{J}^i_k \mathbb{J}^k_i \approx 4\mathbb{E} + \hat{l}^2 - \frac{1}{4}(N - 4)^2 + 4$$

- ◆ Repeat the analysis as before for each  $N \Rightarrow$  Many representations eliminated.
- ◆ Utilize **unitarity bounds** which follow from

$$\langle \Psi | \left\{ \hat{S}_i^-, \hat{Q}^{+i} \right\} | \Psi \rangle = |\hat{Q}^{+i} | \Psi \rangle|^2 \geq 0, \quad \text{etc}$$

$$\text{Example:} \quad E \geq \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3, \text{ etc.}$$

Result: Allowed HW states are

$$(i) \quad |\Omega_l\rangle = S^1 \tilde{S}^1 S^2 \tilde{S}^2 |0\rangle \otimes |0, l, 0\rangle \sim [0, l + 2, 0]$$

$$(ii) \quad |\text{vac}\rangle = |0\rangle \otimes |0, 0, 0\rangle$$

$$(iii) \quad |\text{fvac}\rangle = S^1 \tilde{S}^1 S^2 \tilde{S}^2 S^3 \tilde{S}^3 S^4 \tilde{S}^4 |0\rangle \otimes |0, 0, 0\rangle$$

(ii) and (iii) eventually lead to non-normalizable states.

## 4.4 Solution of the superconformal primaries

### 4.4.1 Solution of the superconformal primaries at $\tau = 0$

On  $|\Omega_l\rangle$ , the supercharge operators effectively simplify substantially:

Below we use the indices  $i = (\alpha, \hat{\alpha})$ ,  $\alpha = 1, 2$ ,  $\hat{\alpha} = 3, 4$ .

$$Q^{\pm\alpha} = 0$$

$$Q_{\hat{\alpha}}^{\pm} = 0$$

$$Q^{+\hat{\alpha}} = i\sqrt{P_-}S^{\hat{\alpha}}$$

$$Q_{\alpha}^{+} = -i\sqrt{P_-}\tilde{S}_{\alpha}$$

$$Q^{-\hat{\alpha}} = \frac{i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left( 2P_x S^{\hat{\alpha}} - \left( \partial_z - \frac{l+1}{z} \right) \tilde{S}^{\hat{\alpha}} \right)$$

$$Q_{\alpha}^{-} = \frac{-i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left( 2P_{\bar{x}} S_{\alpha} + \left( \partial_z - \frac{l+1}{z} \right) \tilde{S}_{\alpha} \right)$$

$$\mathbb{S}^{\pm\alpha} = 0$$

$$\mathbb{S}_{\hat{\alpha}}^{\pm} = 0$$

$$\mathbb{S}^{+\hat{\alpha}} = -i\sqrt{P_-} \left( z\tilde{\mathbb{S}}^{\hat{\alpha}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial P_{\bar{x}}} S^{\hat{\alpha}} \right)$$

$$\mathbb{S}_{\alpha}^{+} = i\sqrt{P_-} \left( z\tilde{\mathbb{S}}_{\alpha} + \frac{\partial}{\partial P_x} S_{\alpha} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{S}^{-\hat{\alpha}} &= \frac{-i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ 2zP_{\bar{x}}\tilde{\mathbb{S}}^{\hat{\alpha}} - (z\partial_z + l + 3)S^{\hat{\alpha}} \right] \\ &\quad - \frac{\partial}{\partial P_-} Q^{+\hat{\alpha}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial P_x} Q^{-\hat{\alpha}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{S}_{\alpha}^{-} &= \frac{i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ 2zP_x\tilde{\mathbb{S}}_{\alpha} + (z\partial_z + l + 3)S_{\alpha} \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial}{\partial P_-} Q_{\alpha}^{+} + \frac{\partial}{\partial P_{\bar{x}}} Q_{\alpha}^{-} \end{aligned}$$

We will seek the superconformal primary state  $|\Psi\rangle$  in the form

$$|\Psi\rangle = \Phi(z, P_-, P_x, P_{\bar{x}})|\Omega_l\rangle$$

◆ The following half of the superconformal conditions are automatic:

$$\hat{S}^{\pm\alpha}|\Psi\rangle = 0, \quad \hat{S}_{\hat{\alpha}}^{\pm}|\Psi\rangle = 0$$

◆ Similarly, the following 8 conditions hold automatically:

$$\hat{Q}^{\pm\alpha}|\Psi\rangle = 0, \quad \hat{Q}_{\hat{\alpha}}^{\pm}|\Psi\rangle = 0$$

This shows that  $|\Psi\rangle$  must be half BPS.

We now impose the remaining superconformal primary conditions one by one to determine the form of  $\Phi$ .

(1) First, consider

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \sqrt{2} \hat{S}^{+\hat{\alpha}}|\Psi\rangle = (\hat{S}^{+\hat{\alpha}} + \hat{Q}^{-\hat{\alpha}})|\Psi\rangle \\ &= \frac{i}{2\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ 2 \left( P_x + P_- \frac{\partial}{\partial P_{\bar{x}}} \right) \mathbf{S}^{\hat{\alpha}} - \left( \partial_z - \frac{l+1}{z} + 2P_- z \right) \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{\hat{\alpha}} \right] |\Psi\rangle \end{aligned}$$

From the coefficient of  $S^{\hat{\alpha}}$  and  $\tilde{S}^{\hat{\alpha}}$ , we get two simple differential equations

$$(i) \quad \left( P_x + P_- \frac{\partial}{\partial P_{\bar{x}}} \right) \Phi = 0$$

$$(ii) \quad \left( \partial_z - \frac{l+1}{z} + 2P_- z \right) \Phi = 0$$

They determine the dependence on  $P_{\bar{x}}$  and  $z$  as

$$\Phi = f(P_-) \psi$$

$$(\star 1) \quad \psi = \exp \left( -\frac{P_x P_{\bar{x}}}{P_-} - z^2 P_- \right) z^{l+1}$$

(2) Next consider the following condition

$$0 = \sqrt{2} \hat{S}^{-\hat{\alpha}} |\Psi\rangle = (S^{-\hat{\alpha}} - Q^{+\hat{\alpha}}) |\Psi\rangle$$

This gives a simple differential equation with respect to  $P_-$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & (S^{-\hat{\alpha}} - Q^{+\hat{\alpha}}) |\Psi\rangle \\ &= -\frac{i}{\sqrt{P_-}} \left[ (1 + z^2) P_- - \left( l + \frac{1}{2} \right) - \frac{P_x P_{\bar{x}}}{P_-} + P_- \frac{\partial}{\partial P_-} \right] S^{\hat{\alpha}} |\Psi\rangle = 0 \end{aligned}$$



This determines  $f(P_-)$  as

$$f(P_-) = c e^{-P_-} P_-^{l+(1/2)}, \quad c = \text{constant}$$

(3) The remaining conditions  $0 = \sqrt{2} \hat{S}_\alpha^+ |\Psi\rangle = (S_\alpha^+ - Q_\alpha^-) |\Psi\rangle$  and  $0 = \sqrt{2} \hat{S}_\alpha^- \Psi = (S_\alpha^- + Q_\alpha^+) |\Psi\rangle$  are satisfied automatically.

□ Complete solution at  $\tau = 0$  :

Thus we found all the unitary superconformal primary states in the form<sup>5</sup>

$$|\Psi_l\rangle = C_l \exp\left(-\frac{P_x P_{\bar{x}}}{P_-} - (z^2 + 1) P_-\right) z^{l+1} P_-^{l+(1/2)} \\ \times S^1 \tilde{S}^1 S^2 \tilde{S}^2 |0\rangle |0, l, 0\rangle, \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

---

<sup>5</sup>For some special states belonging to  $l = 0$  multiplet, Metsaev obtained the bosonic part of the wave function in hep-th/0201226.

## Properties of $|\Psi_l\rangle$

- Quantum numbers of  $|\Psi_l\rangle$ :

$$\text{AdS energy } \mathbb{E}|\Psi_l\rangle = E_l|\Psi_l\rangle, \quad E_l = l + 2$$

$$SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \text{ spins } \mathbb{J}_{L,R}^3|\Psi_l\rangle = 0$$

$$SU(4) \text{ Casimir } \hat{\mathbb{J}}^2|\Psi_l\rangle = (l + 2)(l + 6)|\Psi_l\rangle$$

- AdS “mass” formula :  $m^2$  operator  $\equiv$  quadratic Casimir of  $SO(4, 2)$

$$\frac{1}{2}T^{AB}T_{AB}|\Psi_l\rangle = E_l(E_l - 4)|\Psi_l\rangle$$

- Measure and normalizability: Quantum mechanical measure must be such as to **respect the hermiticity of the basic variables**. The range of  $P_-$  should be taken as  $[0, \infty]$ , as  $|\Psi_l\rangle$  vanishes at both end points.

$$\int_0^\infty \underbrace{\frac{dz}{z}}_{d\phi} \int_0^\infty dP_- \int_{-\infty}^\infty dP_1 \int_{-\infty}^\infty dP_2 \langle \Psi_l | \Psi_l \rangle = |C_l|^2 \frac{(l+1)(l!)^2}{2^{2l+4}} \pi$$

## Representations built on $|\Psi_l\rangle$

- The states of the representation are produced by operating the **8 supercharges**  $\hat{Q}^{\pm 3,4}, \hat{Q}_{1,2}^{\pm}$  (and the momentum operators  $\hat{P}$ 's), with the property  $[\mathbb{E}, \hat{Q}] = \frac{1}{2}\hat{Q}$ .

Example:  $\hat{Q}^{+3}|\Psi_l\rangle = i\sqrt{2P_-}S^3|\Psi_l\rangle$ .

- Dimension of the representation (up to the action of  $\hat{P}$ 's)

$$2^8 \times \dim [0, l, 0] = \frac{64}{3}(l+1)(l+2)^2(l+3)$$

These are precisely the  $\frac{1}{2}$  **BPS superconformal multiplets of 1-particle states realized in supergravity**

$\iff$  Single trace operators  $\text{Tr}(\phi^{I_1}\phi^{I_2}\dots\phi^{I_{l+2}})$  and its descendants in SYM.

□ Complete solution at arbitrary  $\tau$  :

The solution at arbitrary  $\tau$  is obtained by the unitary transformation

$$|\Psi_l(\tau)\rangle = e^{\tau \mathbb{P}^-} |\Psi_l\rangle$$

$$\mathbb{P}^- = \frac{i}{4P_-} \left( D_z^{(l)} - 4P_x P_{\bar{x}} \right)$$

$$D_z^{(l)} \equiv \partial_z^2 - \frac{1}{z} \partial_z - \frac{l^2 - 1}{z^2} \quad (\text{Bessel-type operator})$$

$\Leftrightarrow |\Psi_l(\tau)\rangle$  satisfies the Schrödinger equation

$$\partial_\tau |\Psi_l(\tau)\rangle = \mathbb{P}^- |\Psi_l(\tau)\rangle$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (*) \quad 4 \left( \frac{1}{i} P_- \partial_\tau + P_x P_{\bar{x}} \right) |\Psi_l(\tau)\rangle = D_z^{(l)} |\Psi_l(\tau)\rangle$$

$\Downarrow$  (“Bessel transform”)

Completely explicit wave function of the superconformal primary states for a superparticle in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\Psi_l(\tau)\rangle &= C_l \left( \frac{z}{1+i\tau} \right)^{l+1} P_-^{l+(1/2)} \\
 &\times \exp \left( -\frac{P_x P_{\bar{x}}}{P_-} (1+i\tau) - P_- - \frac{z^2 P_-}{1+i\tau} \right) \\
 &\times S^1 \tilde{S}^1 S^2 \tilde{S}^2 |0\rangle \otimes |0, l, 0\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

## 5 On-going and future Projects

### ◆ Extension to the string case

- Quantum superconformal algebra
- Solutions of superconformal primary conditions
- Expect to meet some **integrable structure** in diagonalizing the spectrum

### ◆ Understanding of GKP-W relation from 1st quantized point of view

- Construction of vertex operators  $\mathcal{V}_I(\boldsymbol{x})$  anchored at a point on the boundary.

$$\langle \mathcal{V}_{I_1}(\boldsymbol{x}_1) \cdots \mathcal{V}_{I_n}(\boldsymbol{x}_n) \rangle_{particle} \sim \langle \mathcal{O}_{I_1}(\boldsymbol{x}_1) \cdots \mathcal{O}_{I_n}(\boldsymbol{x}_n) \rangle_{CFT} ?$$

### ◆ Quantum superparticle in other spaces such as $AdS_4 \times S^7$ , etc.

**We wish to report progress on these and related matters  
in the near future**

**and**

**Thank you all for making the Komaba 2010 workshop  
a fruitful one !**